

# PROCLAMATION

## VISUAL ARTS MONTH

October 2004

*WHEREAS*, the City of Basehor recognizes and appreciates the contributions of visual artists in our community; and

*WHEREAS*, the Kansas City Artists Coalition is sponsoring a free community-wide event in celebration of the visual arts, Open Studios 2004, on the weekends of October 16 and 17, and October 23 and 24, 2004, whereby the public can visit an artists' studio, see where and how they create, purchase a piece of original artwork, and enjoy a fun family experience;

*WHEREAS*, artists from the City of Basehor will be among the more than 200 artists participating in Open Studios 2004, and our City takes pride supporting and encouraging the arts,

*NOW THEREFORE*, I, the Honorable Joseph Scherer, Mayor of the City of Basehor, do hereby proclaim October 2004 to be VISUAL ARTS MONTH.

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Basehor to be affixed at 10:00 am this 16th day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand four.

Joseph Scherer

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Joseph Scherer, Mayor

Date 8/12/04

2 pages

To: Mayor Joe Scherer  
13.724.3388

From: Kansas City Artists Coalition  
Melody Crane 816.421.5222

June 1, 2004

The Kansas City Artists Coalition is once again sponsoring an exciting metro-wide event involving your constituents - Open Studios 2004, the largest event of its kind held to benefit Kansas City artists.

The Kansas City Artists Coalition is a non-profit organization run by artists, for artists since 1975. KCAC's mission is to promote visual arts awareness in Kansas City and the surrounding region through visual arts exhibitions, panel discussions, workshops, gallery talks, publications and community outreach. Our high level of programming was recognized in 2002 by the Andy Warhol Foundation with an award of \$100,000 grant, one of only nine in the nation, and the only award in the Midwest.

The first Open Studios in Kansas City took place in October, 2000. The Kansas City Artist Coalition organized this huge event, coordinating the participation of over 200 artists and covering 14 counties. Open Studios is based upon a similar event held in San Francisco. Did you know that the Kansas City metropolitan area has more artists per capita than San Francisco?

In October of 2002, KCAC sponsored the second biennial Open Studios. It was a resounding success and a fun insight into the arts community for Kansas Citians.

- Over 200 artists opened their studios to the public over two weekends
- 46,400 Kansas Citians visited artists and galleries
- \$100,000 worth of artwork was sold
- Children's events were held
- KCAC published, *Art Exposed: The Guide To Open Studios*
- The Governor of Missouri & 17 cities declared October 2002 "Visual Arts Month"

Open Studios 2004, to be held over two weekends in October, allows the public the opportunity visit an artist's studio, see where and how they create, purchase a piece of original artwork, and have a free and fun experience. Some of the 205 artists who have already registered this year are from your city!

This is an exciting time for Kansas City artists. Awareness and enjoyment of the visual arts is at an all time high and Kansas City is becoming known as an art destination. We believe that a strong arts community is vital to a thriving Kansas City. **We hope you share this vision and will support your local artists by issuing a proclamation declaring October 2004 "Visual Arts Month".**

Thank you in advance for your commitment to Open Studios 2004 and the hundreds of local artists who make it possible.

Sincerely,

Jane F. Simpson  
Executive Director

201 Wyandotte  
KC Mo  
64105



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